

How would you respond to an existentialist who says "You Epicureans have chosen pleasure as your meaning but it's not universal" do Epicureans hold that pleasure is the universal Good?

Post by "Eoghan Gardiner" of June 13, 2023 at 4:35 PM

I don't think Epicureans and existentialists are at odds really, I think the ultimate reality of choosing your own essence is ultimately gonna end up the same as what is most pleasurable (Existentialists are heavily influenced by phenomenologists as well which tries not to abstract so much as far as I know..)

You exist but what you are isn't predefined, unlike Plato and other religions. We could say we exist but what is most pleasurable for me isn't pre decided for the most part (even existentialists would say that we are still constrained by our natural needs etc..) instead I discover what's most pleasurable for myself and decide myself.

Edit: In hindsight I don't think an existentialist would even ask the question I posited.